

PIU Patient Transport Process

Transport of a patient following an exposure to a level 4 bio agent will be limited to the essential movement to the PIU.

Patients

Exposed but not ill

- Patients can walk with escort to the unit.

Exposed and ill

- Patients will be placed in an isopod for ambulance transport and transferred to a BMC bed for transport to the PIU.

Staff and EMS PPE for direct contact

- Exposed but not ill: Universal precautions
- Patient is ill

Impervious coverall suit
Foot covers
Gloves (2 pair)
MaxAir PAPR with hood
Plastic apron

Route

Patient will be transported to the PIU using the Shapiro ambulance entry door, through the ED back hallway to the service elevators and up to 7 West.

Process for Exposed/Not Ill

- Two trained EMS personnel will be dispatched to transport the patient from the lab or from home.
- Patient will be escorted by EMS to the PIU using the most direct route and service elevators.

Process for Exposed/Ill

- Two trained EMS personnel will be dispatched to transport the patient from the lab or from home
- Both EMT's or medics will don PPE
- One of the EMT's or medics will observe the other EMT or medic involved in direct care activities.
- The observer will prepare the isopod
- The direct care provider will assist the patient into the pod
- The observer will close the pod
- The direct care provider will doff the apron and outer gloves.
- The direct care provider will don another apron and gloves.
- The patient inside the isopod will be loaded into the ambulance and transported to BMC
- The decon tent will be set and used as a transfer area to contain contaminated equipment and supplies. Midway inside the tent, a line of demarcation will be set to separate clean and dirty.
- A PIU proceed out team will be deployed to the point of entry (Shapiro Drive ambulance entrance to receive and escort patients to the PIU).
- The patient will remain in the ambulance until the PIU transport team arrives to receive the patient.
- The patient will be transferred to the PIU bed inside the decon tent (the PIU bed remains on the clean side and the EMS stretcher remains on the dirty side).
- Public Safety will commandeer a service elevator and clear the ED Back hallway ahead of the transport team as the patient is moved from one location to another.
- The EMS stretcher will be placed back in the ambulance
- The ambulance will be closed and locked and will remain out of service for cleaning

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- EMT's will follow the Doffing procedures.